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FM AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 8586
INFO RUEHZU/ASIAN PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION
RUEHAM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN 1815
RUEHTA/AMEMBASSY ASTANA
RUEHKB/AMEMBASSY BAKU 0016
RUEHLB/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 0064
RUEHEK/AMEMBASSY BISHKEK 0002
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 0238
RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO 0009
RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS 0298
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA 0005
RUEHDBU/AMEMBASSY DUSHANBE 0004
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 0053
RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU 0005
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RUEHYN/AMEMBASSY SANAA 0025
RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 0072
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SUBJECT: IRAQ NON-COMMITTAL ON KAZAKHSTAN

REF: STATE 77758

Classified By: PolMil Minister Counselor Marcie B. Ries
for reasons 1.4 b. and d.

11. (S) POLMIL MinCouns delivered reftel points to Deputy Foreign Minister Labid Majeed Abbawi July 27. Abbawi allowed that it would not be a good idea for Syria to be elected once more to the IAEA Board of Governors, especially while under investigation for its own activities. Abbawi said he would instruct "his people" to consult with the Arab Group in Vienna; it would be best if there were another Arab candidate. He took on board our arguments about encouraging Kazakhstan, but was ultimately non-committal.

12. (S) Comment. Although not explicitly stated, it appears that Abbawi does not wish Iraq to be the only Arab member of the IAEA to vote against Syria and would consider supporting Kazakhstan should another Arab delegation do so. His preference would be to vote for another Arab country if one is nominated. During a previous meeting July 23, Abbawi told MinCouns that Iraq "could perhaps be absent from the vote" were Syria to be the only candidate.
CROCKER